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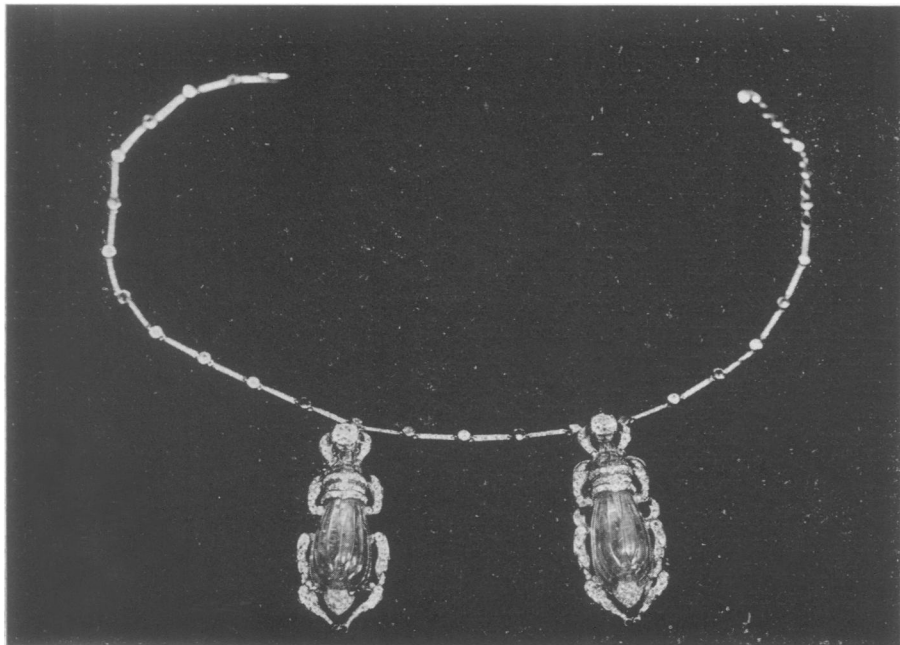
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NECKLACE.

Gold chain with small diamonds, rubies and emeralds, and two superb emerald and diamond pendent beetles.

Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Skelton Harrison.

are incrustated in the top section of the wings. The bird holds in each of his golden talons a drooping lotus.

Altogether these handsome objects will prove of greatest use to students as models to imitate. They are stunning accessions to the collection at Memorial Hall, where in due course of time they will be placed on view.

S. Y. S.



### HALF SUIT OF ARMOR OF THE LATE SIXTEENTH CENTURY

Among the objects recently acquired by purchase by the Museum, is a half suit of armor, probably of German origin and dating towards the end of the sixteenth century, possibly 1580. At this time firearms took their place among weapons of offense, and armor being no longer proof against the lead of the arquebus, it was gradually discarded as there was a natural objection to its



HALF SUIT OF ARMOR.  
Probably German, c. 1590.  
By purchase, from the Price Collection.

weight. Gustavus Adolphus was so strongly opposed to the ancient defensive equipment that he removed every part except the body armor—the breast and back plates, which were still effective against the thrust of the sword or other steel weapons, and in no way impeded the movements of the wearer.

It remained in use probably longer in France than in any other country. Louis XIII, a jealous defender of the old system, promulgated several edicts against its abolishment, as he considered its use as one of the requisites to a mounted nobility. Even to the time of his death (1643) the Black “Mousquetaires” of his house wore in the field complete armor, excepting the greaves which were replaced by large boots, and an iron cap with a nasal piece. This armor was black with gilded rivet heads, and one still exists in the Musée de Pierrefonds. The peaceful disposition of James I caused that sovereign to retain the use of armor during his reign and he is said to have observed “that he could not but greatly praise armor, as it not only protected the wearer, but also preserved him from injuring the other person.”

In connection with this, it may be stated that there is authority for the fact that men at thirty years of age became partially deformed or physically incapacitated for bearing the weight of armor, from having habitually worn it. The present half suit is composed of the following pieces: An open casque, or burgonet, so called from having appeared during the Burgundian wars, with a low comb and an umbril or shade for the eyes; cheek pieces hinged at the sides and held together by a strap, and plate at back conforming to the outline of the neck. This style of helmet was based on classic models and the headpiece most commonly worn by the arquebusiers, but sometimes also by mounted officers, when it was usually provided with a falling bevor or visor made of laminated steel plates.

The breastplate has a ridge or “tapul” down the center with a marked projection near the lower edge. From its resemblance to a pea-shell, this form has been called the “pea’s pod” breastplate. The back plate is formed to fit the shoulder blades, and is attached to the breastplate with straps and buckles. The pauldrons, or shoulder defenses, are composed of seven laminated plates on each shoulder and are strapped to a gorget; while the plates of the tassets, eight in number, reach below the knee, the last plate acting as a knee cap. This particular suit is made of excellent steel and is in admirable condition.

C. S.



## TWO VALUABLE JAPANESE BRONZE FIGURES

Count Daniele Pecorini-Manzoni, who, in November last, visited this city, where he has relatives, before returning to Rome, left on loan with the Museum, two handsome Japanese bronze figures fifteen inches high. They are of remarkably fine bronze and of exquisite workmanship, being inlaid in fine designs in gold and silver, altogether of fine quality. Although he lived for some fifteen years in China, where he occupied some official position in the service of his govern-